

To: Smith, Bonnie[smith.bonnie@epa.gov]; Gomez, Magdalin[Gomez.Magdalin@epa.gov]; Jones, Celia[Jones.Celia@epa.gov]; White, Terri-A[White.Terri-A@epa.gov]
From: Smith, Bonnie
Sent: Thur 2/27/2014 7:24:08 PM
Subject: SALIENTS- 2/20/14 + 2/27/14

OK to use the two below from last week...

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Also these = =

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Response to Coal Ash Spill in Dan River Makes Headlines

Last week's coverage focused primarily on the two community briefings and the impacts that the intense weather has had on the response.

This there seemed to be an increasing interest in the long-term and what is going to be done from a regulator perspective and specifically the cleanup in the Dan River. These issues were also raised at the community briefings. In a public radio interview this week, EPA Coal Ash expert Barnes Johnson talked about the science and the proposed regulations related to coal ash. He was joined by OSC Myles Bartos who discussed the progress of the response. This week, CNN reported that the state advised residents not to eat fish and avoid contact from the from the Dan River. The report said, "The fallout over one of the largest coal ash spills in U.S. history continued Tuesday as environmentalists staged a protest at the headquarters of the company responsible for the incident, the federal government launched a criminal investigation, and officials warned residents near the potentially contaminated river to avoid contact with the water until testing is finished." Lots of local coverage from the Danville Bee continues, including an op-ed by a Virginia River Association on the need for transparency with the response.

Bonnie Smith x 5543 Terri White x 5523

Media are not contacting EPA about Coal Slurry Spill into Fields Creek, WV - Local reporting on the spill in Field Creek has slowed, if not stopped. The local media have not contacted EPA for comments on the spill. The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) ordered all work, except for cleanup, halted at a coal preparation plant (Patriot Coal) that spilled more than 100,000 gallons of coal slurry into Fields Creek in Kanawha County on Tuesday, February 11, 2014. Patriot's Kanawha Eagle Prep Plant will remain idle "until the company has eliminated the potential for further pollution." It is believed a valve malfunctioned in a slurry line at the preparation plant sometime after 2:30 a.m. Tuesday, allowing 108,000 gallons of coal slurry to escape into the creek about six miles above the Kanawha River. Bonnie Smith x 5543

Images on Brownfields Sought Pittsburgh Business Times Our regional brownfields team was terrific in responding to the request to by the Pittsburgh Business times for photos for consideration for a story that was planned to run on its front page. We provided images and also connected the editor with one of our brownfields grantees in the area who was willing to provide Pittsburgh related image, too. Bonnie Smith x5543

Freedom Industries Response Remains in the Headlines Local and national press continue to inquire about the quality of the drinking and for status reports on the progress. Charleston Gazette environment reporter is looking at comparisons and contracts between how the West Va Spill and how the NC Spill have been handled. Terri White x 5523 Bonnie Smith x 5543

Times Dispatch Reporting on Superfund in Virginia

The Times Dispatch environment reporter Rex Springston is working with sister papers across the state to examine the progress being made in cleanup up hazardous waste sites. Stacie Driscoll and Paula Estornell provided a thorough and well thought out overview on progress of the private NPL sites and federal facility NPLs throughout the state.

Bonnie Smith x 5543 and Terri White x 5523

From: Smith, Bonnie
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 7:45 PM
To: Gomez, Magdalin; Jones, Celia
Subject: SALIENTS- 2/20/14

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Media interest in the safety of Charleston Drinking Continues This week, reporters from the Wall Street Journal and the Charleston Gazette have contacted EPA for additional information about the drinking water safety and EPA's role in the response. Coordinated communication between the region and EPA headquarters continues. (Terri may have additional media outlets to add) Bonnie Smith x 5543 Terri White x 5523

Intellenger Inquires about Excavation at ChemFab A reporter from the Doylestown Intelligencer who has been tracking EPA's progress on ChemFab, called for an update. He was interested to find out if the excavation had been affected by last week's big snow. The excavation was not affected by the snow, because it has not yet begun. EPA is moving ahead on a signed access agreement to the excavation area. Access has been provided for groundwater sampling and results are anticipated in a few months. Bonnie x 5543

Bonnie Smith

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